

Summary:

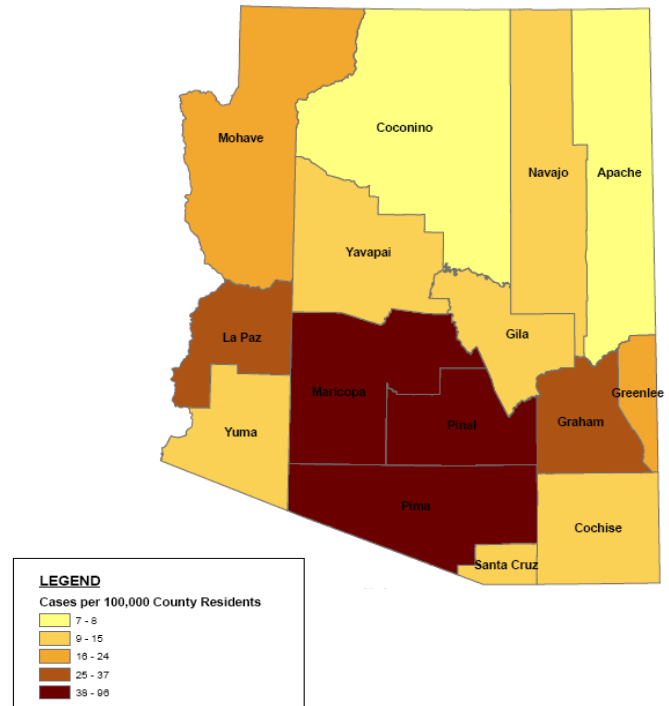
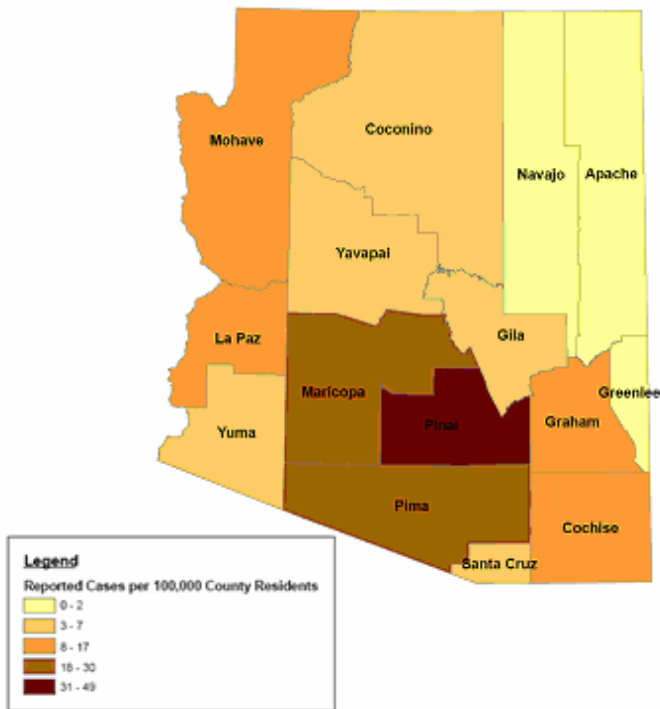
For the year 2007, a total of 4903 valley fever (coccidioidomycosis) cases were reported from across eight counties. 525 cases were reported for the month of December.

Data in this report are provisional and may change as more reports are received.

Valley Fever Activity by County:

Valley Fever Incidence (1/1/2007-6/29/2007)

Valley Fever Incidence, 2006

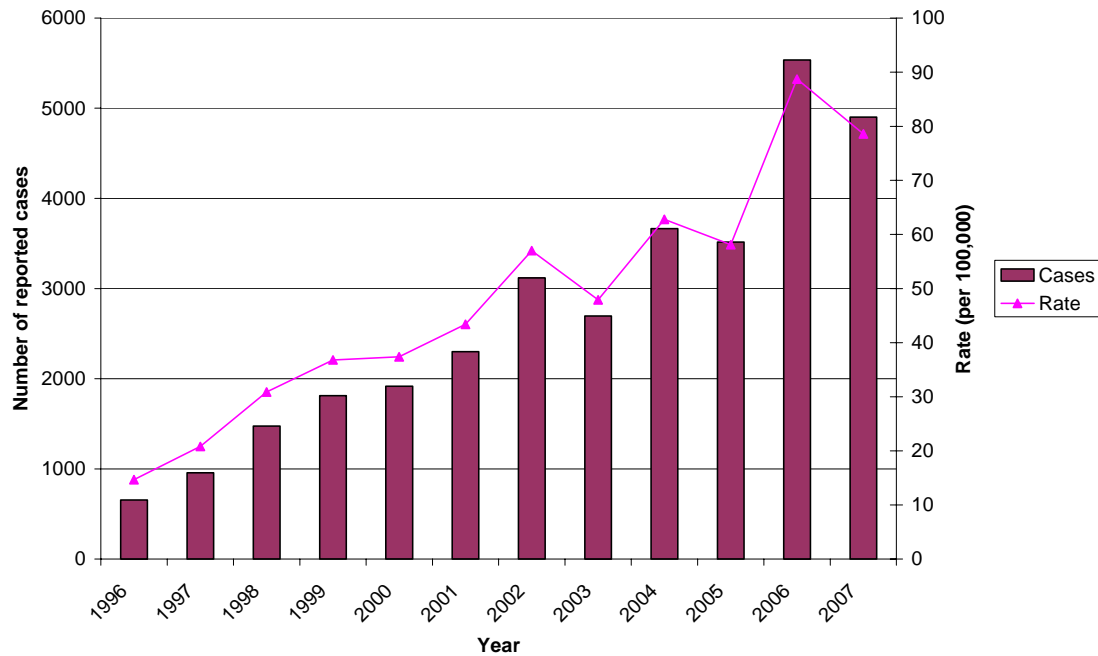


Coccidioidomycosis Cases Reported in December 2007

County	December	Year-To-Date
APACHE	0	8
COCHISE	4	36
COCONINO	1	14
GILA	0	15
GRAHAM	4	24
GREENLEE	0	2
LA PAZ	0	15
MARICOPA	371	3556
MOHAVE	2	50
NAVAJO	2	11
PIMA	122	870
PINAL	19	260
SANTA CRUZ	0	7
YAVAPAI	0	22
YUMA	0	13
TOTAL	525	4903

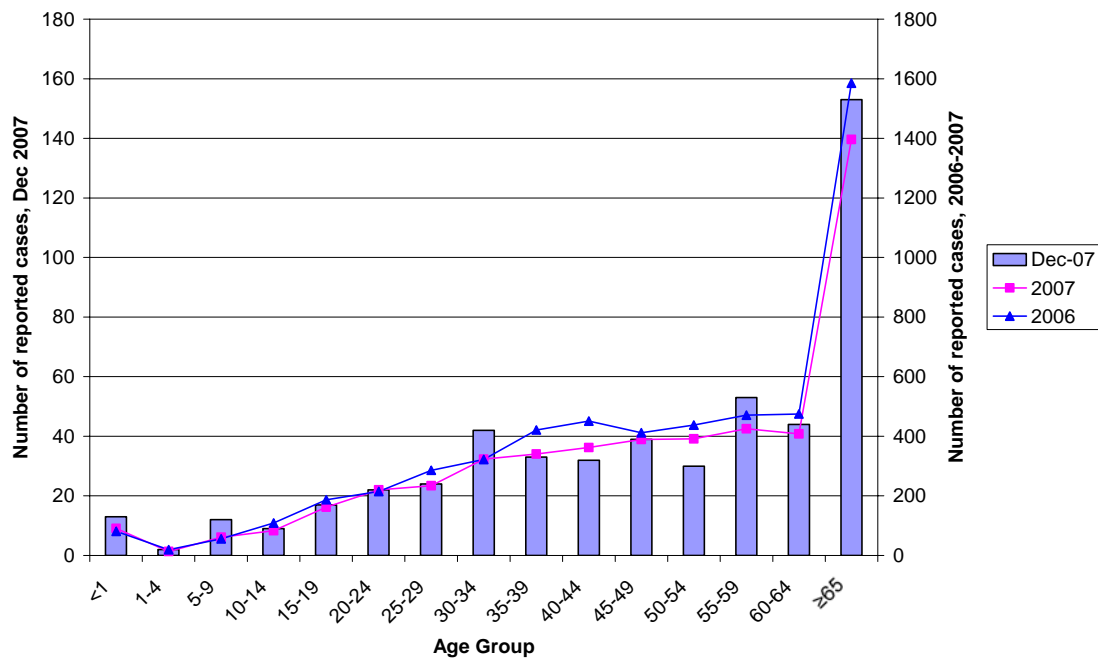
Valley Fever Cases by Month:

Coccidioidomycosis Rates by Year, 1996-2007



Valley Fever Cases by Age Group:

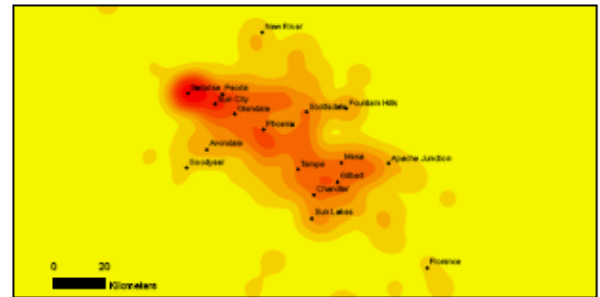
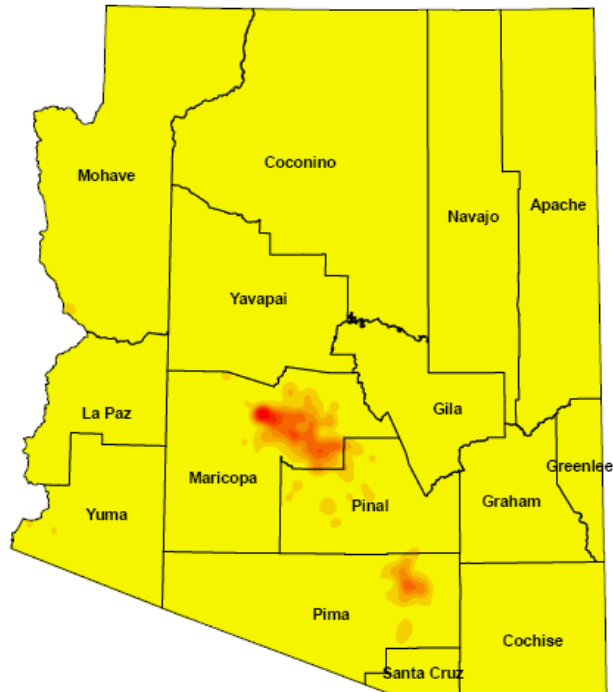
Coccidioidomycosis Cases by Age Group, 2006-2007



Comparing the incidences for the month of December 2007 to the totals for both 2006 and 2007, we see that the majority of cases continue to occur in people who are 65 years old or older.

Areas with Valley Fever Activity:

Below is a density map measuring valley fever incidences by square kilometer for the year 2006. We are working on a density map for 2007 in our efforts to identify prominent areas of valley fever incidence. Valley fever cases occur primarily in urban areas, most notably in the counties of Maricopa, Pinal, and Pima.



Phoenix area



Tucson area

Enhanced Surveillance of Valley Fever:

We are carrying out enhanced surveillance measures to investigate the valley fever epidemic. Our aim is to interview every 10th valley fever case that is reported. So far we have interviewed 350 cases. From this data, the average number of days missed from performing daily activities, such as housework, cooking meals and grocery shopping, was 86.2 days and the average number of days missed from work was 32.2 days. Symptoms lasted for a mean number of 61.4 days. On average, it took 2.9 visits to the doctor before the patient was tested for valley fever. During the course of the illness, 12.9% visited the doctor 1-2 times, 34.5% visited 3-5 times, 23.4% visited 6-10 times, and 28.6% visited over 10 times. 40.7% of cases were hospitalized overnight for valley fever.

49.6% of cases said that they were exposed to dust through their job or activities. Of those exposed to dust, 51.6% said they were exposed intermittently. 16.0% were exposed constantly, 18.6% rarely, and 13.8% said they were exposed sometimes. 54.1% of cases interviewed said that they live within one mile of construction.

Further analysis will be done as we complete more interviews and receive more reports.

*Thanks to Stephen Delgado for making the maps and Sanny Chen for her assistance with the enhanced surveillance data.